

Docket No.: 21776-00052-US1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Nobuhiro Miki, et al.

Application No.: To be assigned
(Div. of 09/636,821)

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Examiner: To be assigned

For: **RESIST FILM REMOVAL APPARATUS AND
RESIST FILM REMOVAL METHOD**

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Before paragraph 1, kindly insert:

--This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Appl. No. 09/636,821, filed August 14, 2000; which is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Patent Appl. No. 09/416,416, filed October 12, 1999--.